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LAW INTELLIGENCE.

BREACH OF AGREEMENT IN A MINING LEASE.

COURT OF CHANCERY—JULY 24.

MOORE v. GOULD.—This bill was filed for the specific performance of an agreement for a mining lease of manganese ore and other minerals on the Colquhoun farm, at Collington, in Cornwall. The main objection to taking the lease, alleged by the defendant, was, that there has been two agreements, of which the first stipulated that the manganese pits, to which alone it referred, should be filled up by the lessee. The second agreement applied to manganese, copper, lead, silver, and all other minerals; the manganese lying near the surface, the others deep, and the expense of filling up being much increased. Mr. GIRDLESTONE and Mr. TRED, for the plaintiff, said the agreement was very clear. Mr. TURNER and Mr. BACON urged the objection, as stated above.

The Lord Chancellor said, no case had been made against the lease, and specific performance must be decreed. Neither the custom of the country, nor the stipulation for usual covenants as to other matters, could weigh against an unambiguous provision in the agreement as to filling up all the pits.

LIABILITY OF SHAREHOLDERS.

COURT OF REVIEW—JULY 26.

EX PARTE WOOD IN RE WEBSTER, A BANKRUPT.—This bankrupt had the misfortune to be a shareholder in an unsuccessful joint-stock banking company, called the Imperial Bank of England, which long since fell into a hopeless state of insolvency. Mr. Webster happened to be one of the few shareholders who were possessed of any considerable property, and against him a fiat was issued in November, 1859, upon a bill of exchange endorsed by the banking company, as a separate fiat issued by a joint creditor. During the administration of the estate under this commission, the bankrupt died, and this petition was opposed by his executor.

Mr. SWANSTON (with whom was Mr. Anderson) stated this to be a petition by certain joint creditors, praying an order declaring the joint creditors entitled to receive dividends out of a large surplus fund remaining after paying 50s. in the pound to the separate creditors. In "Ex parte Morston" (1 Mont. and Chitty, 576), the liability of each shareholder in a joint-stock company was held subject to the same rules as in cases of ordinary partnerships. This decision had been mainly confirmed in "Ex parte Wood" (1 Mont., Dimeson, and De Gex, 69).

Mr. RUSSELL (with whom was Mr. Holt), for the representative of the bankrupt, contended that there existed no precedent for the allowance of such an order. The petitioner was himself a shareholder, and on the issue of the fiat against this bankrupt, he and other creditors of the bank went in and proved under the authority of the 63rd section, which allowed them a vote in the granting a certificate, but without interference in the choice of assignees. There being joint assets and solvent partners, the petitioners had no right to call for a distribution of the surplus of this separate estate. The joint estate was not under administration in bankruptcy, but was in course of administration in the Court of Chancery. There were numerous solvent partners amongst the number of 650 shareholders, to whom no application had been made, against whom no proceedings had been enforced, and the present application was, at least, premature.

Mr. J. CAHOE said, this question had become, since the extensive establishment of joint-stock banks, of a vast deal more importance than before, and it appeared not too probable that similar cases would often occur. The pressure of the law might appear hard upon a man solvent in other respects, if not unfortunately joined in a banking co-partnership; and though he entertained at present no doubt upon the case, he would take a little time for further consideration of an important matter.

ELLENGLAZE MINE.

STANNARIES' COURT, CORNWALL—JULY 20.

FERRIS v. ATKINSON.—Mr. Stokes and Mr. Hennalick for plaintiff, Mr. Hockley and Mr. Simmons for defendant. In this case the jury was empowered to try two issues on the equity side of the court. The first was to try a question of considerable importance, whether any custom of the Stannaries existed by which, after a bond fide sale of a mine with its ores, materials, and machinery, the mine, materials, and machinery, still remained liable for satisfaction of debts contracted by the original adventurers—whether, after one set of adventurers had sold a mine and materials, the creditors of that old set of adventurers had a right to come on the mine and materials, when in possession of a new set of adventurers, for payment of their claim. The second issue was whether there was fraud, had faith, or gross negligence on the part of the defendant, in the purchase of Ellenglaize Mine, so as to render the purchase fraudulent and void, and whether the defendant Atkinson had, at the time of his purchase of the mine, notice of Ferris's debt, or had for fraud or gross negligence on his part might have had such notice.

Mr. BROWN addressed the jury at considerable length, in support of the affirmative of the first issue, in order to show the reasonableness of the custom, and also that it was consistent with the practice of the court under former Vice Wardens.

Documentary evidence, from the records of the court, was put in, and Mr. John Tippet, formerly clerk to the late Mr. John Edwards, secretary to the Vice Warden, was examined as to the practice of the court, and as to the opinions of Mr. Vice Warden Vivian and Mr. Vice Warden Thomas.

On the second issue, evidence of many witnesses was gone into at great length, to show that the sale at which Atkinson, by his agent Mr. Atty, bought the mine of Mr. Henry Fowell Stephens, had not been properly advertised in the newspapers, nor made known by posting bills; that it had been held in the parlour of a public-house at Cubert, instead of on the mine, as had been announced in the few hand-bills that had been printed, together with other circumstances connected with the sale and transfer.

With regard to the first issue, the VICE WARDEN directed the jury that there was "an evidence of any custom so wide as to say that the goods of a buyer should be sold to pay the debts of a seller, after a good, valid, and honest sale;" and his honour added, that if he had had the same evidence laid before him which had now been submitted to the jury, he should not have troubled them to decide upon it. His honour, in concluding his summing up, said, whatever the result might be, he thought the issue notified to the court would be exceedingly beneficial. It would teach mining creditors not to be remiss in asserting their rights. It would also teach purchasers of mines that they must take good care what they purchase, and that they must look to the books of the mine. And this was for their own benefit; for their purchase may be impeached, litigated, and damaged, unless they had good evidence not only of great caution in themselves, but also of due and sufficient publication in the country. If these effects were produced, the rights of the creditors would be supported, and the rights of mining adventurers also.

The jury, after some consultation, returned a verdict for plaintiff on the second issue, and said there was no evidence to establish the custom contended for in the first issue.

CAUTION TO SPECULATORS—SHEFFIELD RAILWAY.

INSOLVENT DEBTORS' COURT—JULY 30.

THE SHEFFIELD RAILWAY COMPANY v. G. VERNER.—This case excited considerable interest, it being a rare instance of an opposition to this court by a railway company against an insolvent.

Mr. NICHOLLS (who appeared for the company) first called the collectors, who put in the record of the action by the company against the insolvent, brought the 30th January, 1861, which was brought in debt for seven calls, to which the insolvent pleaded that he never was indebted, and upon which issue was joined. The cause was tried at the Liverpool Assizes, when the company obtained a verdict for £415, 14s.—costs 149s. 10s., which had judgment gone by default, could not have amounted to more than 10s.—(The assignment of the shares to the insolvent was produced, dated Dec. 4, 1857.) The insolvent, on his examination, stated that he was joined by the Railway Company. He had carried on business since he had been out on bail, but it was in his mother's name; he contended that the Railway Company had no claim upon him, as he had taken the shares in trust, but he admitted that he had offered the company £100, to exonerate him; he considered that he had been victimized; he attributed his insolvency to the company, by which his credit had been stopped.

Among several witnesses who were examined was Mr. Charles Vignoles, who stated that he was an engineer, and resided in Trafalgar-square, Chancery-lane. He had been employed by Her Majesty's Government, and had been appointed engineer to the company. There had been a great number of shares in the market, and he had purchased in 1852 a great number of the shares (1000), which was to obviate the breaking up of the company, which had prevented the breaking up of the railway, &c.

Mr. Commissioner BURNES asked if any of the evidence was given at the trial?—Witnesses. The judge said it was an equitable case, and that evidence could not be gone into.

Several letters were put in and read; also resolutions by the board of directors, which took up considerable time in the reading relating to the shares. The insolvent had twenty. At the meeting, of which Lord Warrington was the chairman, it had been agreed that proceedings should be taken against the shareholders.

Mr. NICHOLLS addressed the court, and contended that the insolvent had fraudulently deceived the action, and that the evidence of Mr. Vignoles was not to be taken, he being an adverse witness and a servant of the company.

Mr. BURNES said a good many things might be produced in equity, but not in a court of law. Mr. NICHOLLS—The matter got everything, which was a liberty proceeding on her part; it was a preference. But should the court think there is on ground for a remedy, I hope it will give the company the result of the opposition.

Mr. COOKE—I think my learned friend has done a great deal for the company by not paying a remedy.—The insolvent was discharged.

TRAFFIC IN RAILWAY SHARES.

COURT OF CHANCERY—JULY 29.

WATSON v. LARREY.—This is a bill filed by Mr. W. Watson, of Liverpool, against Mr. W. Larrey, of Manchester, to compel him to transfer certain new shares in the South-Western Railway Company, which had been allotted in right of certain old shares held by him, but sold, with their rights and interests, to the plaintiff.

Mr. Wigram opened the case, and Mr. Sharp was proceeding to read the evidence, when his lordship (at three o'clock) postponed the further hearing. FRIDAY, JULY 30.

The plaintiff, Mr. William Watson, of Liverpool, sought by this bill to render the defendant, Mr. William Larrey, of Manchester, responsible for the produce of certain new shares allotted to him in the South-Western Railway Company, in right of certain old shares sold to the plaintiff, with a condition that the plaintiff was to have transferred to him all new shares that might be created by the company in such rateable proportion as they would be allotted to the defendant. The transaction out of which the claim arose occurred in May, 1837, at which time the plaintiff purchased from the defendant thirty out of the 100 shares he then possessed. By a clause in the deed of transfer, it was stipulated that the plaintiff was to have new shares in the proportion that they might be allotted to the defendant. On the 5th of May 18,000 new shares were created. The plaintiff expressed a wish to take his proportion, but not having his purchase registered at that time, he applied to the defendant to ask for the shares on his behalf. The defendant did so, but not having paid up his calls, or signed the necessary deeds, he received a refusal, and before the plaintiff could qualify himself to make the same demand on his own account, the term for the allotment expired. The new shares bearing a premium, the defendant importuned the directors to give him some, and having in particular applied to Mr. Easthope, the chairman of the directors, and represented himself as a loser by the shares he originally subscribed for, that gentleman represented the case to the directors, and the defendant, in August, was allotted sixty-four of the shares returned on the hands of the company. The plaintiff now sought his proportion of those shares as stipulated by the deed of transfer; but the defendant alleged that the contract to give new shares was a fraud on him, and inserted without his knowledge, and if it were not, still he had not obtained the new shares in right of the old ones, but as a favour from the directors; and, therefore, that the plaintiff could not now sustain his claim.

Mr. WIGRAM and Mr. SHARPE, on the part of the plaintiff, contended that the contract in question was sworn to by the brokers of both parties, as the result of the agreement at the time of sale. The allegation of fraud could not, therefore, prevail; and nothing that the defendant had stated or proved with respect to the allotment of the new shares could, in that court, divert him of his character of a trustee for the plaintiff under the contract in the deed of transfer.

Mr. RICHARDS and Mr. KENTON PARKER, for the defendant, argued strongly in behalf of his right to retain the shares, because they were not given until after the forfeiture of the right to claim, and then as a matter of grace and favour.

The Lord Chancellor (without hearing a reply) decreed in favour of the plaintiff, with costs. It could not be pretended that the defendant would have received any shares if he had not held the old ones, and it was on that account solely that the grace and favour was extended to him.

SPECIFICATIONS OF RECENT PATENTS.

(From the Inventors' Advocate.)

Samuel Hall, civil engineer, Basford, Nottinghamshire, for improvements in the combustion of fuel and smoke, July 14.—The first of these improvements consists in a mode of feeding furnaces with fuel, by which the entrance of cold atmospheric air into the same is prevented.

A hopper is placed in an inclined position in the front of the furnace over the fire-door, and the fuel being introduced into the same gradually descends over an inclined plate to the front of the fire bars, from which it is moved towards the back of the furnace by the apparatus described under the second improvement; the inclined plate is hinged at the bottom, and is capable of being lowered to the level of the fire bars, in order that on the fire-door being opened the same may be removed, or the fire itself.

The second improvement consists in a means of retarding the combustion of fuel, and in a means of raking and clearing the fire bars.

The fire bars are provided with openings in them for the passage of air, and which, when it is desired to retard the combustion of the fuel, are closed by sliders. Under the fire grate is a framing running upon wheels, from which a number of long teeth project, one between every two fire bars; where, when it is desired to rake the fire, are caused to rise up between the bars, and the machine is then made to travel towards the back of the furnace, when the teeth travelling along between the fire bars gradually move the coal towards the back of the furnace, clear the spaces between the fire bars, and spread the coals evenly over the fire-grate. On reaching the back of the furnace, the teeth are lowered from between the fire bars, and the machine returns to the front of the furnace.

The third improvement consists in the use of a pipe perforated with small holes, extending the whole width of the fire place, through which water is occasionally sprinkled on the fuel in the front of the same.

The fourth improvement consists in passing atmospheric air to steam-ranges or other fire places through pipes, tubes, or passages within the boiler and smoke-box, and also through short tubes around the fire-box, instead of its passing through pipes, &c., on the outside of the boiler, by which means a certain degree of heat is imparted to the air previous to its entering the fire place.

As the draft in the fire places of locomotive engines, when the engine is at rest, is but small, the patentee increases it by directing small currents of steam up the chimney, in the same manner that the waste steam is passed into the same, according to the usual method, when the engine is in motion.

In order that the steam generated by this increased heat may not be lost, it is passed through a pipe into a small chamber within the water contained in the tender, from which it passes through a number of tubes into a second chamber, thereby heating the water in the tender previous to its introduction into the boiler, and the water arising from the condensation of the steam runs off through a cock in the bottom of this second chamber.

The fifth improvement consists in the use of a bent metallic plate, placed in the upper part of the smoke-box, leaving a space between it and the sides and the top. It is perforated with a number of small holes, the aggregate area of which is at least equal to the area of the chimney, so as to allow a free passage through them of all gaseous matters into the space above mentioned, on their way from the box to the chimney, but at the same time to prevent the passing of any large pieces of fuel into the chimney.

The sixth improvement consists in placing the pipes used for heating air previously to its introduction into the fire place, mentioned in a former specification, not only in the chimney, or in a chamber leading thereon, as therein mentioned, but in any part of the flues of the boiler through which the flame or heated gases circulate, on their passage from the furnace to such chimney or chamber.

Charles Cameron, late captain in the 51st regiment, formerly residing at Mount Vernon, Edinburgh, and now of Darnaway street, Edinburgh, for certain improvements in engines to be actuated by steam or other elastic fluids, July 14.—Cincom.—The method herein described of converting the rectilinear motion of a piston in a cylinder into a curvilinear or rotary motion.

One or more cylinders are firmly attached to a hollow horizontal axis, through which steam is admitted into them; which axis is capable of revolving freely, together with the cylinders, being supported in plummer bores firmly bolted to the framing of the engine. The piston rods work through stuffing boxes in each end of each cylinder, and are attached at each end to a moveable frame provided with trucks, which travel round a circle that forms part of the framing of the engine, being eccentric to the circle described by the cylinders. The steam being admitted into the cylinders forces the pistons outwards towards the ends of the same, and acting through the moveable frame and trucks upon the circle causes the cylinders and their axis, together with the moveable frame, to revolve. A rotary motion is thus obtained, which may be used to drive machinery, or for any other purpose.

AMERICAN PATENTS.

(From the Journal of the Franklin Institute.)

James HERRON, Baltimore, Maryland, for improvements in the construction of railroads, April 13.—The first improvement is fully explained in the first section of the claim, which is in the following words, viz:—"What I claim as my invention, and desire to secure by letters patent, is, 1st. Placing the rails in the formation of a railway, so that they will cross each other in lines diagonal to the rails; and uniting them with each other and with the rails, so that they become struts and tie beams to the track, substantially, as described. And whereas said brace struts may be variously combined with each other, and with cross struts, and may be made to support an iron rail without the intervention of the timber string piece; and may also, like common struts, be placed on a 'wood sill.' I distinctly claim to be the inventor of the brace struts or lattice construction of railway tracks under the modifications set forth, together with such variations thereof as may produce a like result by means substantially the same. I then by the union, in one, or an indefinite extent, of such materials as those that usually compose railway tracks, obtain by a united framing a more extensive and uniform bearing on the soil than the individual parts would have; all other railways having to depend upon the continuity of soil, or artificial road-beds, for their continuance of surface. Whereas any railway track is independent in its bearing on the soil on which it rests."

The second improvement consists in a mode of uniting or securing the string pieces, so that when the ends are put together they cannot separate from each other except lengthwise, and the claim is to this peculiar mode of securing, which could not be understood without diagrams. The third improvement is for a mode of holding the iron rails by means of a spring, which presses the ends of two rails against the chair to prevent vibration, and, at the same time, permits them to slide lengthwise, when expanding or contracting, which is effected by making the bolt which passes through the rail and chair with a double spring instead of a head, which thus holds the ends of the two rails; or by making a wrought-iron chair, with ears on each side, that are bent over the web or seat of the rails, when laying them down. The claim is to the "method of evenly joining, and holding railwaybars by means of a metallic spring pressure, so as to permit the contractile and expansive motion of the railway bar, whether said spring pressure operates by means of my malleable iron chairs, or as it may be variously modified and united with cast-iron chairs, as described. The application of a spring to the rail for the purpose described being in itself new, and as said spring may be variously applied for producing the intended effect, it is to be understood that I claim the employment of a spring under the various modifications thereof described, and whenever it operates upon the principle and produces the effect in the manner set forth."

The fourth and last improvement, is for a mode of holding the iron rails at the "middle of their lengths" by means of a piece of iron lying across the string, having two wrought iron ears which are bent over the web or base of the T rail, and being attached to the string by means of an iron strap secured to the ends thereof, and passing under the string, or keyed under it; or effecting the same thing by key bolts passing through the strings and the web or base of the T rail, by which mode "the iron rail is made to support the scarf of the string pieces or to form a part of the splice." The claim is to the mode of holding the rails at the middle of their lengths, as set forth.

We will only remark that the plan of construction proposed in this patent has been the subject of high commendation by some of our best practical engineers.

John Penniman, Baltimore, Maryland, for an improvement in steam boilers, April 24.—We will merely quote the claim appended to the specification, as it gives a sufficiently clear idea of the improvement, to bring it within the comprehension of any one, viz:—"Having thus fully described the nature of my improvement, and the manner in which I carry the same into operation, what I claim therein as my invention, and desire to secure by letters patent, is, the placing a series of circulating tubes on the front plate of the boiler, in such a manner as that they shall, at their lower ends, communicate with the water in the lower part of the boiler, and at their upper ends with the water in said boiler a little below the water line, whilst they are, along their whole length, exposed to the direct action of the heat in the fire-box, in the manner and for the purpose above set forth."

In pointing out the effect produced by thus placing the tubes, the patentee says, "as these tubes open below into the lower part of the boiler, and at their upper ends into the upper part, below the water line, the water which will become highly heated in the lower parts of the tubes, will naturally ascend, and that with considerable rapidity, towards the upper part, where they will give out their steam, and by the action of the water circulating through them, they will necessarily draw the water in the lower part of the boiler towards them, and effect the required circulation."

HYDRAULIC RAILWAY.

A patent was lately enrolled by Mr. J. G. Shuttleworth, of Sheffield, under the title of "Certain improvements in railway and other propulsion;" the principle of the invention is equally applicable to different descriptions of tramways, and for canals and other modes of water transit, but we shall now confine our observations to the plan as it applies to railways. The contrivance rests on the same foundation as that of the atmospheric railway—viz., a system of iron pipes or tubes running longitudinally between the rails. This piping cannot be made the subject matter of a patent, being long open to the public, and it is only as regards something more to be built upon it that the patent right holds good. Through such a system of piping Mr. Shuttleworth proposes to force a non-elastic fluid, such as water, which liquid is scarcely compressible, unless under enormous pressure. The horizontal main or tube to carry the water is attached firmly to the sleepers between the rails, and has in its upper surface a slot or opening, which is smallest at the top, and expands downwards till it joins the interior of the tube. A piston fits the interior of the longitudinal tube, and terminates in a peculiarly formed guide-neck, for taking up and applying to the aperture in the tubing a continuous flexible valve or stuffing of Indian rubber, or other suitable material. In front of the guide-neck there is one vertical and one horizontal wheel fixed on a spear-like projection from it, to guide the piston steadily as it moves along in the pipe with the least possible amount of friction, while a thin metal plate from it passes up through the opening and is attached to any railway carriage of ordinary construction. At the commencement of the line a vertical pipe conveys a column of water on to the horizontal main through a valve or cock opened or shut at pleasure. The efficiency of this agent may be produced by pressure from an elevated reservoir, or its propulsive power may be derived from that of steam. On withdrawing the valve the water rushes up the horizontal piping, and draws the piston with the carriage to which it is attached forward. The flexible valve which lies along the bottom of the main passing through the guide-neck, and up over the piston, is raised as the piston travels along, and placed in the longitudinal opening, where it is then firmly retained by the pressure of the water behind the piston. The claim of the patentee is, first—the application of the power of a column or body of water acting against a piston in a tube, to which piston a railway carriage or other object to be propelled is fastened, for the purpose of propulsion; the second—the improved guide neck to the piston for raising and conveying to its proper place, the flexible valve or stuffing required to fill the slot left open in the upper part of the propelling tube for the passing of the plate. The main feature in this invention, which contrasts with that of Messrs. Clegg and Samuda's atmospheric pressure plan of propulsion, is the application of a non-elastic fluid for an elastic one. With a non-elastic fluid, like water, any force applied at one end of a column of any length will be immediately felt in its full efficiency at the other; and in this particular Mr. Shuttleworth's hydraulic railway seems to possess great advantages over the atmospheric. On the atmospheric plan of Messrs. Clegg and Samuda, an absence, or rather partial vacuum, of air before the piston, is the object sought, leaving it to the atmosphere to propel the piston as it flows it up the piping. The whole power gained on this principle by the statement of the patentee is only half an atmosphere, or about 7½ lbs. on the square inch; and this must immediately be taken advantage of, or the partial vacuum in the pipes is again filled from the external pressure of the atmosphere. Now, though this power is so comparatively small, yet it is obtained only by exhausting the pipes under the disadvantages we have just stated, while on Mr. Shuttleworth's plan it is asserted that the pressure of several atmospheres might be obtained if required.

THE PROJECTOR OF RAILROADS IN ENGLAND.

Mr. Hobler, jun., who was accompanied by Mr. Ragsley, the engineer, Mr. James, and several other gentlemen, attended at the Mansion-house on Monday last, and stated to the Lord Mayor, that he appeared before his lordship, on the part of the family of the late Mr. James, of Bodmin, land agent and civil engineer, to whose exertions, as the original projector and surveyor of the Manchester and Liverpool, Central Union, London and Brighton, and many other railways, the public are principally indebted for the establishment of the present system of railroad conveyance in this and other countries. The late Mr. James, several years having intervened before the bills passed both Houses of Parliament for the three first-mentioned railways, proceeded with the survey of many of the principal lines now in existence, on some of which he published his reports. He was enthusiastic in the cause of this grand scheme of national communication by locomotive engines, and in its early stages was the mainstay and agitator of the system under the powerful opposition and prejudices then existing in the public mind, and his ample fortune, together with the settlements made on his sons and daughters, were severally given up and expended in public improvements, in patents, experiments, and surveys, for the promotion of this great work, whereby his family had been left without pecuniary aid. His claims had long since been acknowledged, but he did not think of remuneration, as the importance of the railway system was not imperfectly understood. Now, however, that it was universally adopted and appreciated, it was submitted that these claims should be acknowledged by a liberal testimonial to his family. In consequence of the report that the friends of Mr. James's family were determined to exert themselves on the occasion, some individuals were going round the country with applications for contributions for a national testimonial, and had already obtained a considerable sum of money without the sanction of the family, who considered that, on such an occasion, the best course they could pursue was to represent the circumstances to the Lord Mayor, and to request his aid in preventing the continuance of such a scheme of raising money.

The Lord Mayor said, he was convinced the most effectual mode of prevention would be by publication of the circumstances as extensively as possible.—Mr. Hobler, jun., said, that the conduct of those who received the money under false pretences, might be considered a sort of national imposition.—Mr. Ragsley said, the high merits and claims of the late Mr. James were well known to the scientific men of the country, and that it would be desirable if those who had subscribed would publish the names of the parties to whom they had handed their contributions, or hand them in to the committee about to be organized for carrying the scheme of the friends of the family of the late railroad projector into effect.—The gentlemen then thanked the Lord Mayor, and retired.

MINING CORRESPONDENCE.

ENGLISH MINES.

HOLMBUSH MINING COMPANY.

July 26.—I beg leave to inform you that Hethcote's shaft is sunk to a depth of 39 fms. 3 ft.—ground favourable for sinking. In the 110 fathom level south more small ore branches have been met with during the past week. In the 100 fathom level, east of James's winze, no lode has yet been taken down; the winze below this level is without alteration. The lode in the rise, in the back of this level, is still about eighteen inches wide, and worth 27½ per fathom. The lode in the stope, in back of ditto, is two feet wide, and worth 44½ per fathom. The lode in the ninety fathom level west is fifteen inches wide, and worth about 10½ per fathom. The lode in the eighty fathom level, in back of this level, is one foot wide, and worth 15½ per fathom. The lode in the eighty fathom level east is twenty inches wide, producing good stones of ore. In the rise, in back of this level, the ground is becoming much more favourable for rising. In the eastern stope, in the back of this level, no alteration. The western stope, in back of ditto, are still very productive, the lode being two and a half feet wide, and worth about 55½ per fathom. The lode in the seventy fathom level stope is eighteen inches wide, and worth 23½ per fathom. The lode in the seventy fathom level east, at Flap Jack, will be taken down in the course of a few days. The rise in the back of the sixty-two fathom level, against Bray's shaft, is still in east ground. The pitches, upon the whole, are looking favourable. We expect to sample on Friday, the 30th instant, about 300 tons of good quality ore. F. PHILLIPS.

UNITED MILLS MINING COMPANY.

July 26.—Addit end West—But very little done in this end for the past week, the men have been engaged in assisting the timber man, and working at surface. Twenty Fathom Level—Lode four feet wide—2 ft. 6 in. good ore. Thirty Fathom Level—During the past week we put the men from this level end to rise against the winze sinking from the twenty fathom level; lode 4 ft. 6 in. wide—two feet good ore. Thirty-six Fathom Level—In the eastern winze, sinking below this level, lode three feet wide, producing some stones of ore. In the western winze the lode is 2 ft. 6 in. wide, with but little ore. Forty Fathom Level—Lode three feet wide—one foot ore of fair quality. Forty-six Fathom Level—No lode broken. Fifty Fathom Level—In driving east from east diagonal shaft, at this level, the lode is 3 ft. 6 in. wide—1 ft. 6 in. on the north part producing ore, with a promising appearance. Sixty Fathom Level—In driving east from Williams's shaft the lode is 3 ft. 6 in. wide—one foot good ore. West of Williams's shaft the lode is four feet wide, coarse in quality. THOS. LANGDON. S. H. PEARCE. N. LANGDON.

WEST WHEAL JEWEL MINING ASSOCIATION.

July 26.—No alteration in the ground in Buckingham's engine-shaft. Fifty-seven East, on the South Branch—Lode worth 6½ per fathom. Fifty-seven East, on Wheal Jewel Lode—Lode worth 10½ per fathom. Fifty-seven West, on same Lode—Lode worth 10½ per fathom; we expect we are near Hodges's cross-course in this level. Sinking South Adit Shaft, below the Fifty-seven Fathom Level—Ground very favourable. Winze in the bottom of the Forty-two, on the South Branch—Lode worth 6½ per fathom; this winze is down ten fathoms below the forty-two fathom level. Forty-two West, on South Lode—Lode fifteen inches wide, spar, and stones of yellow ore. Thirty West, on Talcarn Lode—Lode worth 30½ per fathom—suspended for want of air. Rise in the back of the Deep Adit, on Wheal Jewel Lode—Lode worth 5½ per fathom. S. LEAN.

CORNUBIAN MINING COMPANY.

July 24.—I beg to inform you that since my last report of the 17th inst., our prospects, generally speaking, in the tribute department, continue encouraging; the tributaries are working well, and breaking a fair quantity of ore. We have four shafts sinking—viz., engine shaft, Clifford shaft, western shaft, and Murray's new shaft, all of which are progressing rapidly, through favourable ground. The forty and fifty fathom levels, going west on Chilver's lode, are passing through promising ground, and which will be taken away at very moderate tributes. We are in good spirits with the present appearance of the mine. R. ROWE.

TINCROFT MINING COMPANY.

July 27.—I beg to inform you that we have this day sampled 240 tons 15 cwt. of copper ore, which, I expect, will fetch about 700£. With respect to the state of the mine, I am glad to say we have still an excellent course of tin in the west end; the same level is also looking well, and worth 20½ per fathom. The lode in the 142 west is about three fathoms wide—saving work for tin and copper ore; on the east end, the same level is unproductive at present. The 120 east is yielding good work for tin, and worth 18½ per fathom. The lode in the 110 is about four feet wide, two feet good work for copper ore, and worth 15½ per fathom. The 100 east is rather failed for copper ore, but is producing fair quality tin stuff, and worth 12½ per fathom. We have commenced sinking a winze in the bottom of the ninety fathom level, near the end, in a good lode for tin, and worth 60½ per fathom. The lode in the eighty-one is at present split into branches, and although producing some tin, is not rich. The winze under the seventy-two has had no lode taken down for some time. The thirty fathom level, west from new engine shaft, on North Tincroft lode, is improved both in size and quality, and yielding some rich stones of grey copper ore; the same lode, in the bottom shaft, continues to look well for copper, with some tin, and worth near 20½ per fathom; this is all in new ground, for nearly the whole length of the sett. At Palmer's we have set the flat rods at work, and are nearly in fork. Our tribute department continues much the same as for some time; on the whole, I may venture to say, the prospects in this mine were never more cheering than at present. W. PAUL.

TAMAR SILVER-LEAD MINING COMPANY.

July 26.—Our regular setting being so near at hand, when Captain Rowe will give you a detailed account as to the prospects of the mine, I have only to say, for the present, that the lode in the 103 fathom level still continues large and ore; also the ninety five end is still passing through good tribute ground, and the levels, on the whole, are improved within the last month. MARK JAMES.

GREAT WHEAL CHARLOTTE MINING COMPANY.

July 24.—Captain Trevethan's reports have fully described the variations which have occurred in the lode in the pitwork which is in progress, and I do not doubt that you have felt satisfaction in observing that our levels and winzes have continued to lay open productive ground, and that the stope are proving the lode in the back of the seventy-two fathom level to be as productive as its appearance in that level led us to expect. Nothing has been done in the eighty-two fathom level since Captain Trevethan's last report, the men having been taken from it to prepare a proper plat at the seventy-two in readiness for the steam-whim; this they will have completed before you receive this letter. The seventy-two west has lately improved, the lode in it is now five feet big, and is yielding three tons of ore per fathom, worth 5½ per ton. The lode in the winze sinking under this level is four feet wide, and is worth 30½ per fathom. In the stope over the seventy-two west the lode is seven feet wide, and worth 30½ per fathom. In the stope over the same level east of the shaft the lode is from three to four feet wide, yielding about 20½, worth of ore per fathom. The first stope under the sixty-two west of the shaft will turn out four tons of ore per fathom, worth 4½ per ton; and in the other stope under this level, which is further west, the lode is eight feet wide, and worth 25½ per fathom. The steam-whim is complete, and has been tried for a short time, and seems to work very well. We hope the machinery for crushing the ore, which is to be attached to this engine, will be finished by Saturday, so that next week we may go to work in full force. I confidently expect to be able to increase our rate of returns from this time, and at the same time to effect a reduction in our cost of drawing and of dressing the ore. The substitution of a new boiler for the small one, which so frequently caused interruptions in working the pumping-engine, by its leaking, has produced a great saving in fuel, and has secured us a more important benefit in the regularity, with which the bottom levels are now kept clear of water. We are also deriving a great advantage from the change made in our pitwork, by which the salt water is now kept from mixing with the pure water of the mine. You are aware that considerable outlay has been required to effect these most desirable objects, but I have the satisfaction of assuring you that they have been done with every regard to economy, while care has been taken to execute the work effectively and well. I presume you have already received the accounts of cost for June month from Mr. Moore, the amount is large, as it includes upwards of 5000 for the new boilers, steam-whim, crusher, &c. The following short statement will exhibit the real state of our monthly cost and returns for May and June (if a fair price for June ore be realized):—

Amount of May cost	£ 480 14 7
Cost of June ore	1939 1 0
	£ 2747 15 7
Deduct extra cost on account of new machinery, charged to June	203 9 2
	£ 2544 6 5
By ore raised in May, and sold June 24th	£ 582 13 2
By 125 tons of ore to be sold 24th July—say	600 0 0
	£ 1182 13 2
Profit on the raising cost	£ 11 5 9

In making this calculation I have taken the value for the ore for sale for what they would fetch, provided the standard does not fall next week. I have reason to hope they may make a few pounds more than I have estimated them at.

S. TAYLOR.

TARTOIL MINING COMPANY.

July 26.—The engine-shaft is now down 12 fms. 3 ft. below the forty fathom level; we hope shortly to finish the casing, dividing, &c., and to commence driving east and west at the fifty-two fathom level. The lode in the forty fathom level west of engine-shaft is ten inches wide, good tribute ground. The lode in the rise, in the back of this level, is three feet wide, tribute ground. The lode in the forty fathom level east of engine-shaft is 1 ft. 6 in. wide, very good tribute ground. The lode in the thirty fathom level east of Williams's shaft is one foot wide, very good tribute ground. The lode in the twenty fathom level east of Williams's shaft, on the north part, is six inches wide, producing some ore. The lode on the south part is six inches wide, tribute ground. The lode in the twenty fathom level west of John's shaft, on John's lode, is ten inches wide, tribute ground. The lode in the ten fathom level west of John's shaft is two feet wide, very good tribute ground. Moyle's lode, at the adit level, is small and unproductive. J. MORCOM. H. WILLIAMS.

REDMOOR CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY.

July 26.—The summer has nearly completed the engine-shaft to a sixty fathom level, after which we shall cut winze pit, &c. Driving south, at the fifty fathom level cross-cut, the ground is favourable; we have driven from the shaft 17 fms. 3 ft. At the forty fathom level, going east, we have, within the last few days, intersected the lead lode, and find it to be about six inches wide, composed of white peach, spar, and good stones of lead ore, saving work. The copper lode, at this level, is fifteen inches wide, with capel, spar, and muddle, and some good work for copper. In the end driving south, at the thirty fathom level, on the lead lode, the ground is hard, and lode unproductive. At Hurl-down we have cut a lode, but having opened very little on its course, we are unable to say much about it. F. R. ROWE.

THREELION CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY.

July 24.—Seventy Fathom Level, east from Christ's Shaft—Lode large, worth 10½ per fathom. Seventy Fathom West—Lode also large, containing a little ore, not yet clear from the soft ground. Sixty Fathom Level West—Lode not taken down for several days—last reported worth 20½ per fathom. Fifty Fathom Level West—The lode continues to produce ore, and open tribute ground, worth 5½ per fathom. This level east is large, but poor for ore. Good Fortune—The forty-four fathom level is driven east of the shaft about five feet, where the lode appears ore for three feet wide, worth 12½ per fathom. This level is driven west about the same distance, and the lode also good, about two feet wide, worth 5½ per fathom. W. SINCOCK.

FOREIGN MINES.

BRAZILIAN MINING.

Cata Branca, May 8.—In the mine all goes on as last reported. Some good samples have been sent out from the side lode, but of what extent the ground remains to be seen. At St. Antonio we have cleared the shallow level home to our shaft, and recommenced sinking. The deep level, too, is now clear home to its end, and, when measured, the proper steps shall be taken to make it of use.

May 14.—I am glad to say that the shaft promises better work; most of the stones broken there are now showing gold, and the side lode is really good. In our bottom end west we have got hold of a large lode, which I believe is west of the cross-course, and where, above, you are aware that we could not find it; it is promising in appearance, though the samples have proved poor. This is, however, often the case, when so close to the cross-course (be it east or west) as this is. The deep level (St. Antonio) is hauled to No. 14 lode; ground has yet to be broken to let some water down, when I shall be able to tell you what it is. The gold on hand will be sent off to-morrow—147 lbs. 11 oz. 14 dwt. 1 gr.—being, exclusive of duty, the produce from the 27th of February to the 7th of May. W. CORNWORTH.

Gold return for the week ending 7th May, 17 lbs. 3 oz. 12 dwt. 15 grs.

MINE ACCIDENTS.

Lanauet, Swansea.—A most lamentable accident occurred on Friday week, in an old level, at Lanauet, near Swansea, commonly called "Hen Level Pit," to Mr. Wm. Thomas, of the Star Inn. He was going to work on Friday night about seven o'clock, when, as he walked in, a stone of immense size fell on him, and caused his instantaneous death.

Handley Wood.—John Booth, aged twenty-six years, was killed on the 19th inst., whilst in the act of descending a coal mine at Handley Wood.

Roobar Coal-pit.—At one of the coal-pits belonging to the firm of Field, Coopers, and Co., of Woburn, near Banbury, three individuals were accidentally killed on Tuesday last, and a fourth much injured.

Singular and fatal occurrence.—On Wednesday, David Steel (a soldier), belonging to Whitfield's, lost his life at the Pulshaw pit, in that neighbourhood, under the following circumstances:—A man of the name of M'Culloch, was at the pit with a cart for coal; and, happening to have been followed by a dog, he expressed himself to some of the men employed at the pit-head as desirous of getting rid of the animal. The reply was, that he might speedily do so, by throwing it down the shaft. This thoughtless advice was adopted by M'Culloch, who immediately seized the dog, and pitched him into the pit. Unfortunately four persons were in the act of ascending in one of the buckets; they were within a few fathoms of the top—the shaft being in all about fifty-three—when the dog in its descent struck Steel somewhere on the shoulder or back of the neck, by which he was instantly precipitated head foremost, to the bottom—the whole party narrowly escaping a similar fate; the unfortunate man was killed on the spot, his body being greatly mangled by the fall. The dog, strange to say, fell into the bucket, and was brought up unharmed.

Hately Heath Colliery.—A fearful accident, and wonderful escape.—On Tuesday afternoon a most calamitous and fatal accident, yet marked by the almost miraculous escape of one of the men who had nearly fallen a victim to it, occurred at the Hately Heath Colliery, belonging to Messrs. Bagnall, near West Bromwich. Three men, named Thomas Ward, Thomas Gibbons, and Richard Knight, were employed in bricking the shaft of a pit, upon a seal fold, about nine feet from the bottom, when a man named John Holden, who had just come out of the pit, hearing a great noise, turned round and saw the bankmen, James Lewis, and a quantity of bricks, falling down the shaft. He immediately ran to the shaft, and found the bankman hanging in it by his shoe, which had providentially caught some projection at the mouth of the pit. Holden instantly seized him by the legs, and dragged him up out of the shaft without his having sustained any injury. Strenuous exertions were then made to rescue the three unfortunate men below, and Holden instantly went down the pit, but unhappily only to discover that the accident had proved fatal to them all; they were all three found lying at the bottom of the pit, and quite dead—"knocked all to pieces," Holden said, "there being scarcely a bone about them but was broken."

THE IRON TRADE.—Bar-iron has not been so low as it is now for many years, and yet, singular to say, capitalists do not buy on speculation; this is often the case when goods are extremely low, and selling under cost price. Some persons imagine it will be still lower, but it is not likely that ironmasters will go on losing money as they are now doing. What is most surprising is, that railroad directors do not avail themselves of the present very low and almost unheard-of prices.—*Bristol Mirror.*

SICILIAN TRADE.—It will not surprise the readers of this journal to learn that the late advice from Naples state that his Neapolitan Majesty is slipping through all his promises with regard to British trade; that it is doubtful whether the British claimants will be paid without serious interference on the part of their Government, and it is even added, the export duty will not be reduced in January next, as promised; a new treaty of commerce has also been peremptorily refused. We can readily believe all this, except what relates to the export duty. A reduction of that duty will be so highly advantageous to the king, that it is very improbable that the present enormous duties will be retained longer than January next.—*Journal of Commerce.*

TINNING.—The Council of Public Health, in its sitting last week at Brussels, passed resolutions condemnatory of the process of tinning adopted by M. Tramery, in imitation of silver. The resolutions were founded on the report of the chemists to whom the matter had been referred, and they were to the effect, that the composition of the tinning is an alloy of tin, antimony, and nickel; that instead of being better than ordinary tinning, it is inferior to it in many respects; that as regards public health it affords no security, and that consequently it would be dangerous to authorize its use.

WALKER'S UNIVERSAL WATER ELEVATOR.—We have witnessed the application of this useful and ingenious invention, and must say that, for the purposes to which it is applied, nothing can possibly be better constructed. It appears that if a small tube, weighing from six to seven pounds, is inserted in a common household pail, or any other vessel containing water, and the tube shaken up and down, the water rises into the interior of the tube, and from thence may be expelled, with great force, to a considerable distance, either in a horizontal or perpendicular manner.—*British Queen.*

The *Monitor* holds a royal ordinance, by which the Order of Leopold is conferred on Mr. Robert Stephenson, engineer, of London, as a testimony of His Majesty's satisfaction with the improvements which he has made in locomotive engines, which improvements have turned to the advantage of the Belgian iron railways.

PROCEEDINGS OF SCIENTIFIC BODIES.

GEOLOGICAL SOCIETY—MARCH 10 AND 24.

MR. MURCHISON (President) in the chair.

On these evenings a memoir, by Mr. Murchison and M. E. de Verneuil, "On the Geology of the Northern and Central Regions of Russia's Europe," was read.

In our report of the meeting of the British Association at Glasgow, in September last (see *Monthly Review*, vol. vii., p. 77), we gave a somewhat detailed abstract of a memoir, by Mr. Murchison and M. de Verneuil, on this extensive region; it will, therefore, be necessary to notice, on the present occasion, only those points which were not more immediately brought under the notice of the Geological Section at Glasgow. With respect to the crystalline or metamorphic rocks, the authors state, that the rocks of the White Sea, near Ourga, consist of peculiar varieties of gneiss; and that the sedimentary strata, on the western shore of Lake Ourga, have been much altered by intrusive trap rocks. The Silurian deposits, the oldest sedimentary rocks examined by the authors, are composed in ascending order of—1, blue clay; 2, grit; 3, limestone, with flagstones. In the blue clay no fossils have been noticed; the grit is distinguished by angularity, and the authors found in it a small shell, resembling a peecten; the limestones and flagstones are rich in organic remains, including *Orthoceras rostratus*, *Asaphus opimus*, *Ilanus crassicauda*, *Spiriferites*, and numerous species of *Orthis*; also the following shells, found in the Silurian strata of England, *Leptæna depressa*, *L. acervata*, *Lappala Levinsii*, and *Ostrea casalis*. Of the old red and carboniferous systems, it is not necessary to add in our former report. Overlying the latter, occurs a series of newer red formations, of vast extent, in the Government of Volodga, Nijali, and Kostroma. It agrees with the old red system of Russia, by containing salt and gypsum; but it differs in lithological character and the total absence of the fishes and other fossils of the more ancient formation. The authors abstain from defining its exact geological position till they have completed their tour to the Ural Mountains. Of the coarser and newer tertiary strata, it is not necessary to offer any remarks. At the Glasgow meeting Mr. Murchison alluded, but slightly, to the vast accumulations of drift and erratic blocks in Russia, reserving his more detailed description to the present memoir. The superficial details, he says, often indicate the nature of the fundamental deposits; that overlying the Silurian zone being grey, whilst that which covers the old red partakes of the colour of the subjacent rock; and the detrital coating of the carboniferous limestone is often charged with broken flints, extracted from that rock. Fragments of the same siliceous nodules are also scattered over the southern regions, composed of the newer red and coarser deposits. All the large erratic blocks have been derived from the mountains on the north-west, and there is no instance of any detrital materials having been transported from south to north, except by modern streams, or the influence of local causes, dependent on the present configuration of the land. Near Nijali Novgorod are large blocks, of a very peculiar trappose conglomerate, which must have been drifted from a rock *in situ*, north of Petrasowdsk, on the Lake Ourga, a distance of nearly 600 miles. The authors are of opinion that the erratic blocks were transported southwards in icebergs, from glaciers, which they suppose may have existed in Lapland, and which, they believe, were disintegrated during an elevation of the northern chain, and at the period when the post-pliocene shells were accumulated in the northern parts of Russia. In this respect the authors conceive, that the country they examined presents an exact parallel to the phenomena described by Mr. Murchison in the central counties of England, and of which a similar explanation is given in his *Silurian System*. With regard to the evidence of glacial action in Russia, as exhibited by striae and the polished surfaces of rocks, the authors state, that no such markings have been observed in Central Russia, and that the most southern scratches, which they observed, occurred near Petrasowdsk. They then examine the applicability of Professor Agassiz's glacial theory to the tract under review; they conceive that no glacier can advance except from a superior to a lower level, but they show, that if certain striae, observed by M. Böttlinger, on the eastern sides of the Bothnian Gulf, and others by themselves, near Petrasowdsk, are proofs of the overland march of the transporting bodies of ice, then the glaciers which produced those striae must have been propelled from lower to higher levels, as they are traceable upwards from under the water. They also show that, in this tract, there are no hills of sufficient altitude on the north-west to account for the determined forward direction to the south-east; and they further state, that not only must the supposed glacier have moved forward without a cause, but it must also have maintained an advancing front of many hundred miles in length. Without pretending to offer a complete solution of this difficult problem, they cannot avoid suggesting, as a probable explanation of its chief phenomena in Northern Russia, that currents, determined in certain directions by the elevation of northern continental districts, may have disintegrated, and set in motion, icebergs charged with detritus, which, grazing upon the bottom of the sea, may have produced the striae. Another important class of phenomena connected with the action of ice, is the production of angular black ridges on lake and river banks. On the western shores of the great Lake of Ourga are three parallel ridges of large angular masses of hard grit, at heights varying from twenty or thirty to 150 feet above the level of the water. As the blocks are identical in composition with the subjacent rock, and quite angular, it is evident, the authors say, that the masses had not been drifted; but it was not until they became acquainted with the modern action of river ice in Russia, that they were able to account for the origin of those ridges. About eighty miles above Arzhangel they noticed a similar band of angular fragments of white limestone, from twenty to thirty feet above the Dvina, and having been informed that this great river, during the floods in spring, throws upon its banks, to those heights, large blocks of ice, they easily comprehended that this band may have been produced by the entanglement in the ice of the lower portions of the subjacent strata of limestone. With respect to the ridges on the shores of the Lake Ourga, the authors are of opinion, that they were accumulated in a similar manner, and they see in those ridges proofs of the lakes of Northern Russia having formerly stood at much higher levels; and they think that the distinction of shallow lakes and the conversion of marshes into land, within the historic period, strongly corroborate the rise of this portion of Europe. In conclusion, the authors dwell on the horizontal position, near spaces a thousand miles in length, of an ancient rocks as those of the Silurian, old red, and carboniferous systems—on the slightly solidified state of their strata, and on the absence of all plutonic or igneous rocks from this vast region; and they conceive that the conjoint consideration of these phenomena must exercise a great influence upon geological theory, proving that formations do not increase in hardness in proportion to their antiquity, or in consequence of the radiation of heat from the centre of the globe, but to the insignificance of protracted igneous rocks.

COMBUSTION OF SMOKE.

TO C. W. WILLIAMS, ESQ.

SIR,—Highly gratified as I was on the perusal of your volume on combustion, and approving as I do of your doctrines, which are, without doubt, sound (a proof of which may be seen in the practical operation of your furnace), yet I cannot but think there are circumstances in which it will be found not to answer either your own expectations, or those of your admirers who may adopt the plan.—In the first place, let me commend a few of the circumstances under which it may be thought desirable to try your plan. (I now refer only to engine furnaces.)—1st. Where there is plenty of power, or, in other words, where an engine is not overworked.—2d. Where, though working up to the nominal power of the engine, there is plenty of boiler room.—3d. Where an engine is not only overworked, but there is also a deficiency of boiler room; and you are enabled to drive only by excessive firing. With engines in either of the two first conditions, I hesitate not to say but your plan, on the score of economy of fuel, will be found to answer; with regard to economy of the boilers, I will not pretend to judge—time can only test that. But now comes the third case—a case in which, unfortunately, most mill-owners will be found; for it seems to be a rule with most of us, to get as much work out of an engine of a given power as possible. I don't wish to question the wisdom of this practice; but such, I believe, is generally the case. Now, it is in this very case that I doubt the efficacy of your plan. I beg you will not misunderstand me. We must have the power, whatever be the expense (in fuel I mean). It is in this case, then, I say, I doubt the success of your plan. Here, time is the main element in the calculation; the difficulties are precisely the same as those under which locomotive engines labour—want of steam. You must have a given quantity of steam, of a certain pressure, in a given time. Now, all the smoke having apparatus I have seen or heard of have this peculiarity, that, to enable them to act well, they require more time than can be afforded (years, by the way, is not a smoke house, but a smoke preventer). I have seen them burn smoke; but I saw they required the essential time—in other words, I have known smoke prevented, but it was at the expense of the pressure of steam. Now, what I want to know is this—Can you with your apparatus burn off a given weight of water with a given weight of fuel, in a given (shorter) time, than you can with any of the methods ordinarily in use? This is the great question in the argument; and unless you can prove that you can do this, you may depend upon it your scheme will not have the slightest chance of success; so long as men look only at the first outlay it requires to set in motion a certain weight of machinery. And here I ought, if I were to discuss, carp at the ignorance of those writers who greatly assert that they can, or rather do, work their engines with only 25 lbs. of coal per horse per hour; but I leave such assertions to their own fate. Our business is with your plan, which, I assure you, I am anxious to see prosper; but, not having the time to spare which such experiments require, I must at once stop, suggesting their importance to you, thus whom I commend myself to and to whom I can with much propriety address these remarks. I am, Sir, Sir, Manchester, July 17

N. BRADSHAW.

HYPERICUM AERIFLORUM.—Not only are trees frequently found imbedded in peat, bogs, and masses, but entire forests are not unfrequently preserved deeply buried in the soil. Several instances of the kind have been discovered in our coasts; the trees thus entombed on the sea-shore being usually brought to light by the excavations made by some storm, which has laid bare the superincumbent deposits. The vegetable substance is usually impregnated with iron, and the wood is firm and heavy, that in Yorkshire the timber thus obtained is frequently used for the construction of houses.

UNITED MEXICAN MINING ASSOCIATION.

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cult to get cash even for them, as there was no ready money in the country, except in the hands of the English companies; in the last cost sheet there was an item of 3600 mules (about 3751 sterling) for the hire of blacks—now that they have their own slaves that expense will not be incurred.—Mr. HERRING stated that in the accounts that had been circulated the amount of produce had been given but not the details of cost, he should wish those details to be given.—The CHAIRMAN replied that the secretary would give every information required.

Mr. BOSWORTH wished to ask Mr. HERRING's opinion, as to whether the mine would ultimately pay the proprietors?—Mr. HERRING replied, most certainly he did think so, as soon as the mine was in proper order, which he expected would be by the end of the year, and when once in order it would be impossible to get it out of order again, without it was done on purpose. It would be impossible to get it done soon, as they could not do in the Brazil as they did here. If you want a job done in England you put 200 extra men at work, and it is done off hand—now, in the Brazil, the men must be taken off from some other work, and the worst of it was it could not be remedied.

Mr. BOSWORTH hoped that next year they might have a handsome dividend.—The CHAIRMAN wished to know what Mr. BOSWORTH would consider a handsome dividend?—Mr. BOSWORTH replied 10s. per share.—The CHAIRMAN replied, that he would insure the profit to be 6000l. per month, which would give more than that—it might even be 10000l. per month.—Mr. BOSWORTH would be satisfied with 5000l. per month.

Mr. HERRING stated, that the great evil had been, that the full complement of blacks had not been purchased at first starting; it had cost immense sums for their hire, which, if they had laid out more money at first, would have been saved.

It was then moved, seconded, and carried unanimously.—That the questions put by the directors, and Mr. HERRING's answers, be printed for the use of the proprietors.—The business of the meeting being finished, the proprietors separated, all expressing the highest satisfaction at the ready manner in which Mr. HERRING had answered the different questions put to him.

WEST CORK MINING COMPANY.

The usual half-yearly general meeting of the shareholders in this company was advertised to be held on Thursday, the 29th instant, at the George and Vulture Tavern, Cornhill, at one o'clock; a sufficient number of shareholders, however, legally to constitute a meeting, not having arrived up to two o'clock, the meeting adjourned sine die.

DANESCOMBE MINING COMPANY.

The half-yearly general meeting of this company was held at the office, in Birchington, on Thursday, the 29th instant; but, on application, we were informed that no business of any importance would be discussed.

CLARENCE RAILWAY COMPANY.

A meeting of the proprietors of shares in the above railway was held at the George and Vulture Tavern, on Tuesday, the 27th inst.

HENRY HERRING, Esq., in the chair.

The advertisement convening the meeting having been read by the secretary, the CHAIRMAN informed the proprietors that they were called together according to the promise of the directors made previous to the general meeting held at Stockton, to make them acquainted with what took place at that meeting; also to give a report of the committee which was appointed to visit and examine the works. The directors deeply regretted the necessity they were under of calling for more money, but they would lay before the meeting such an account that would prove that their affairs were by no means in a worse condition than at the last meeting, but on the contrary, the line, though slowly, was steadily progressing. The committee of shareholders had stated that 15,0000l. would be sufficient for the completion of the works, but only 80000l. had been subscribed; the remaining 70000l., although not the amount of the liabilities, would go a great way towards relieving them from their difficulties.

The SECRETARY then read the proceedings of the meeting held at Stockton, on the 1st of June, and the report of the directors submitted thereat; also a report of the present state of the works of the company, in which the committee stated that the extended level to connect the western and other pits with the Chilton branch has been completed, and the coals were now daily coming down for shipment; they had also reason to expect that other pits would shortly be sending coals down this branch. The following pits—viz., the Whitte, Stanley and Wootley, Newfield, and Whitworth, in addition to the Wellington and Hunsley, all on the line of the Wye's green branch and West Durham Railway, had sunk to good coal, which was now being conveyed down the Clarence Railway. From the heavy cuttings required to render the Wye's green branch a locomotive line, the expense had far exceeded the calculation made; it was, however, now near completion, that from 8000l. to 10000l. would finish it, which might be looked upon as a final expense. In bringing this work so nearly to a close, the committee had rendered themselves liable for large sums of money, from the shareholders having only partially responded to the call, and from being obliged to provide further locomotive power; also from having been obliged to relay part of the line required, to ensure the safe conduct of the passenger traffic; beyond what has been stated, the company have no new works in course except the bridge over Ralholme Creek, and the cost will not exceed 30000l. In conclusion, the committee earnestly called upon the proprietors to come forward and advance the subscription on the shares previously called for, and seconded those who have already assisted them, to complete the little now required to be done.

After which, the CHAIRMAN, in reply to questions from several proprietors, stated that it would require 9000l. to complete the Wye's green branch; that they had thirteen locomotives, several of which were now undergoing repair, but which would all in a short time be fit to work; the revenue of the company more than met the expenditure—the revenue being calculated at about 24,0000l., and the expenses at about 20,0000l., including repairs and every contingency; last month had been a very short one, in consequence of a panic amongst the coalowners, but it was only temporary, and their trade was now going on as usual. He (the chairman) also stated, in reply to a question from Mr. J. Morris, that about one-third of the shares had not responded to the last call of 100l. per share.

Mr. J. MORRIS then had much to say at his name being put down as a delinquent; he held only thirty-five shares, and had advanced 12000l., which he thought was quite enough, and did not feel disposed to advance more; 12000l. on thirty-five shares, he thought, was paying considerably more in proportion than the other proprietors had done, or than the directors had any right to expect from him.

Mr. W. MORRIS (the managing director) explained that he fully understood that it was agreed at a former meeting that the proprietors should advance 100l. per share, notwithstanding any previous payments, and, as he had not paid, consequently his name was in the list.

Mr. J. MORRIS said that he had advanced quite enough, and would not advance any more, the shares were worth nothing, and he considered the company insolvent; his shares originally cost him 1100l. each, and he thought that he had lost enough.

The CHAIRMAN explained, in reply to several proprietors, that the locomotive power, as at present applied, was certainly a losing one, but, if they had not locomotives, they would have no trade. On the first opening of the line to the collieries they had in mind up day after day for the coals, they not being close for them, and a great loss was therefore necessarily incurred.

Mr. HERRING inquired if the locomotive power had not been found insufficient for the duties required?—The CHAIRMAN replied, that last winter, during the severe frost, at the time when the thermometer was at zero, several portions of their engines were much injured by the frost, and, until the repairs were completed, they certainly were very much put about for a sufficient power; the expenditure (Mr. Morris) was present, and would explain better than he could.

Mr. MORRIS entered into a long explanation respecting the different engines, and stated that the worst of them all was the Sir Robert Peel, for it was always breaking down, they could do nothing with it; when all the engines were repaired they would have thirteen good engines; at one time he was left with only two engines, yet he got through all the work, and nothing about still.

Mr. J. MORRIS could not see why they required thirteen engines when all the work could be done with two. Was the business done by contract, there appeared a great loss by it?—Mr. MORRIS explained, that the loss by the business was owing to their having to hire horses for the Wye's green branch; they had to pay 100l. per wagon for horse traction for two miles of the road that were unworked. The reason of the engines requiring such heavy repairs was owing to the quality of iron put in near the furnace, the Low Moor iron only being fit for that purpose, and all their engines having been made previous to that discovery.

Mr. W. MORRIS explained, on enquiry returning to the same question, that, had the required subscription been paid up in 1852 and 1853, the company would now have been in a flourishing condition; in 1852 he asked for 100000l.—as then it was reduced to 50,0000l.—and if the proprietors did not advance 100000l., he would go on further with them; their bankers had advanced 100000l., and they must keep 50000l. with them; if the shareholders refused, then the shares would be worth nothing—they must come forward to prevent their property.

The CHAIRMAN stated that every economy had been made use of in the formation of their line, which had only cost them about 100000l. per mile, whereas the London and Birmingham and Great Western lines had cost

60,000l. per mile; if they had 100000l. it would carry them through all their difficulties.—Mr. W. MORRIS stated that he wanted 15,0000l. independent of the 50000l. that had been already subscribed—that was all gone before they had it.

Mr. FOWLER understood that if 10,0000l. was not paid that the money was not to be touched.—The CHAIRMAN said there had been defaulters.

A long and tedious conversation ensued, when, after considerable contradiction, it appeared that as only 80000l. could be got, the directors had entered their names for the 20000l., so as to be able to use the 80000l. actually subscribed.

A DIRECTOR wished that the proprietors would come forward and grant the 15,0000l. required, 10000l. only was wanted to finish the railway, the rest would set them straight with the world; their prospects were certainly extremely good, the expenditure was not 20,0000l. per annum, and the returns above 24,0000l.; he was sure that next year they might be stated at from 30,0000l. to 35,0000l.; was this advantage to be lost for a paltry sum like 15,0000l.? If the money was not subscribed the directors could not go on.

In reply to a question, as to whether the 12,0000l. due to the bankers would be paid out of the 15,0000l., Mr. MORRIS replied that it would partly.

A long conversation ensued about the purposes to which the money, if raised, was to be applied to, during which Mr. MORRIS gave various contradictory statements, and the directors seemed much divided. Several shareholders stated that they were dissatisfied with the manner in which the accounts were drawn up; there had been stated to be a large profit, when, on referring, it appeared that for 1849 the returns were only 19,0000l., and expenses nearly 20,0000l.—Mr. RADFORD recommended that, according to the calculations of their managing directors, they would, from the profits of the concern, be able to pay off all their debts in twelve months, that would be the best plan to pursue, instead of calling upon the proprietors; doubtless, as the bankers were so kind, they would wait, particularly as they held good security.—Mr. MORRIS wished to know what they were to do in the mean time, they could not do without an immediate supply of money.—A PROPRIETOR begged to suggest that it would be good economy to unite the management of the locomotive power of the Clarence and Hartlepool Railways under one head; he had written to the committee on the subject.—The CHAIRMAN replied that the committee would be happy to hear the hon. proprietor, his letter only reached yesterday.

Mr. W. H. SAVAGE wished that they could agree upon some plan, by which they could get over their difficulties, and wished that an appeal should be made individually to each proprietor, requesting an answer from each, and then let the result be made known at a meeting to be held a fortnight hence.—Mr. MORRIS perfectly agreed with Mr. Savage, that an appeal should be made, but wished that some resolution could be come to that day.—It was then moved by Mr. W. H. SAVAGE, seconded by Mr. WILSON, and carried unanimously.—That an urgent appeal be made to the proprietors, explaining the situation of the company, and requesting an immediate reply.

The CHAIRMAN then read a paper, to be signed by the proprietors, promising to pay 50l. per share, provided a certain sum (left blank, to be filled up at the next meeting) be subscribed. It was signed by most present, and the meeting separated.

LIVERPOOL AND MANCHESTER RAILWAY COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the shareholders of this company was held in the Cotton Sale-rooms, on Wednesday, the 29th inst.

CHARLES LAWRENCE, Esq., in the chair.

Mr. BOOTH (secretary to the company) read the report, setting forth the result of the operations for the six months ending 30th June last. The receipts in the coaching department were stated to be about 70000l., less than those of the corresponding period last year, and those in the merchandise department 10000l. more. The disbursements have been considerably diminished as compared with the corresponding period last year. The improved means of communication with Leeds and Hull, and with the great manufacturing districts of the West Riding of Yorkshire, and consequent on the opening of the Manchester and Leeds Railway throughout, is expected to bring an accession of business to this company, which the directors will endeavour to promote, by affording every practicable dispatch to attract goods along the new line of railway rather than by the older and slower means of transit afforded by canals.

The accounts exhibited a net profit for the half-year of 64,010l. 2s. 11d. The directors recommended a dividend of 50l. per share, amounting to 40,4500l., and payment of a second instalment of the reserved interest to which shares created before the opening of the line in September, 1839, are entitled, as follows:—On the 5100 original 1000l. shares, 11s. per share, £51000.

On the 5100 first quarter shares, 2s. per share, £510—5610

the above total being deducted from the available fund, will leave a balance of 6731l. 17s. 4d. to be carried to the next half-year's account.

The CHAIRMAN said the report was brief, but he hoped it would be satisfactory, and he hoped the conduct of the directors would be approved of by the proprietors. The railway has been carried on without any accident to travellers, and he believed the works were never in a more satisfactory state than at present.

Mr. ARNOLD supposed the debt was between 20000l. and 30000l.—Mr. BOOTH—A little more than 300,0000l.—Mr. ARNOLD—After the present payment, will there be much more to disburse on the original shares?—Mr. BOOTH—This will make about 15 or 16,0000l. of interest paid out of 20,0000l.

Mr. R. M. BENSON moved that the report and accounts be approved, printed, and circulated. He thought the Liverpool and Manchester Railway was an example to all railways in the country. It was the best conducted railway in England.—Mr. TAYLOR seconded the motion, which was passed unanimously.

Mr. ARNOLD, seconded by Mr. R. M. BENSON, moved that a dividend be paid at the rate of 5 per cent. for the half-year, ending 30th June last. Carried unanimously.

Mr. JAMIESON, seconded by Mr. R. M. BENSON, moved that a second instalment at the rate of 20s. per share on the 1000l. shares, and of 2s. on the original 250l. shares, being a portion of the interest to which those shares (only) are entitled, be also paid. Carried unanimously.

Mr. A. KAY (of Manchester) said he some time ago stated to Mr. Booth that it was desirable to state to the directors, that they ought to follow the example of the conductors of the railways in the midland districts, in giving such directors to their servants the influence of the company, as a company should not be exercised in any way for the purpose of influencing parliamentary elections. He did not wish to make allusions to individuals, but he wished to have a general direction given to that effect.—The CHAIRMAN said he did not believe any such influence had been used. At a former election, as it was known that a great difference of opinion existed amongst the directors, it was notified that all persons connected with the company might vote as they pleased. No such vote was given at the last election.—Mr. BOOTH said the order was passed four years ago, and it had remained in force ever since.—Mr. KAY wished Mr. Booth to take a minute of his observations, in order that the attention of the directors might be again drawn to the subject.—Several members expressed their disapprobation that anything of a political cast should have been introduced.—Mr. KAY said, he could speak particularly on the subject if he pleased, and, therefore, wished that the order of the directors should be made generally known, in Manchester as well as Liverpool.—Mr. BOOTH said, as he was well aware of the wishes of the directors on the subject he would take care they should be generally known in Manchester.

MANCHESTER, BOLTON, AND BURY RAILWAY.

The report of this company for the half-year ending the 30th of June last, gives a satisfactory account of the undertaking, although there was a considerable falling off in the receipts from the carriage of coal, during the whole of January and February last, arising from differences between the coalowners and their mines, which extended to almost every colliery on both canal and railway. On the 4th of February, the Bolton and Preston Railway was opened to Haslingden Bridge, for the conveyance of passengers only, the arrangements for the carriage of merchandise not being yet completed. In three months more the line would be extended into the town of Chorley, and the whole might be expected to be finished by the autumn of next year. One challenge was just beginning to send coal from Blackrod to Manchester, others were preparing to do so, and, as there were in that neighbourhood extensive mines of valuable coal, and excellent horse fire coal, there was a reasonable prospect of an increase of traffic in these articles. Although circumstances of traffic had not yet been brought into operation so materially as to benefit the shareholders, the committee had pleasure in stating that there was an improvement in this over the last half-year, sufficient, in their opinion, to justify them in declaring the increased dividend, especially as the saving of interest arising from the reduction of the bonded debt would not be fully experienced until the forthcoming half-year.—By the statement of accounts laid before the meeting, it appeared that the disposable net receipts of the navigation and railway amounted to 30341l. 17s. 6d., from which a dividend of 10s. per share was declared, payable at the company's office, Salford, on and after the 24th of August next.

SHROPSHIRE BANKING COMPANY.

The annual meeting of the proprietors was held on the 20th instant, when the directors made their 50th annual report. The clear profits for the year ending on the 30th of June were 21822l. 10s. 10d., and a dividend of 24 per cent. was declared, to become payable on the 1st of next month, which, with 3 per cent. paid in February last, will make 104 per cent. for the year, the same amount as was declared last year. The guarantee fund was also increased from 20,0000l. to 25,00000l., by the appropriation of 50000l. the amount of premium on shares sold this year, and of 10000l. from the profits of the year, and the balance of 17114l. 10s. 10d., from the surplus profits of this and last year, was carried forward as a provision for bad and doubtful debts. The directors who go out by rotation were re-elected, with the exception

of Henry Hill, Esq., whose place was supplied by Mr. Thomas Crump.—In the course of the proceedings, a resolution was passed to increase the number of shares which may be held by any manager or clerk of the company to 300; it has been heretofore restricted to 50.

SHEFFIELD AND HALLAMSHIRE BANK.

The annual meeting of the shareholders was held yesterday week, at the Cutlers' Hall, Sheffield.

JOHN JONES, Esq., in the chair.

In the report, the directors recommended the payment of a dividend of 7½ per cent. on the paid-up capital; after which, writing off all bad or doubtful debts, there would remain 12390l. to be added to the surplus fund, which now amounts to 65490l.—The report was unanimously adopted, and, on the recommendation of the directors, Mr. Benjamin Bardekin was elected a director, in the room of Mr. Samuel Parker, who retires according to the Deed of Settlement.—The directors having retired, a vote of thanks for their services, and placing at their disposal the sum of 2500l., was agreed to unanimously.—A vote of thanks was also passed to Mr. Buckinshaw, the manager, for his assiduous and faithful services.—In answer to the questions of a shareholder, it was stated that the accounts of the bank had been fully audited by two of the directors, and the recommendation of the dividend was resolved upon.

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE UNION BANK.

At the late general meeting of this company a very satisfactory report was laid before the proprietors, and a dividend of 7s. per share declared for the half-year ending the 30th of June last. The profits of the six months amounted to 25451l. 6s. 6d.; out of which the directors have added 20200l. 6s. 6d. to the guarantee fund, which now amounts to 18,724l. 3s. 2d.

BASTENNE AND GAUJAC BITUMEN COMPANY.

A half-yearly general (also made special) meeting of the proprietors of this company was appointed to be held at their offices, 3, St. Mildred's-court, on Wednesday, the 28th instant; some two or three directors were, however, the only parties present, and our reporter, after waiting about an hour, was informed that his attendance was not necessary, the objects of the meeting having previously been discussed, and, in a great measure, settled, by some preliminary meetings which had lately taken place.

ALDERMAN HUMPHREY AND THE BLACKWALL RAILWAY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I seize the earliest opportunity, on my return from Dublin, to reply to the charge which has been made against me, in a resolution of the Blackwall Railway Company, passed on Friday, the 16th inst.

It appears that advantage was taken of my intended absence from London to make this spiteful and malicious attack, for the resolution, of which I had no previous notice, was passed at a meeting at which I had no right to attend (not then being a shareholder), on the afternoon of Friday, and published in the Times of Saturday.—I having left town on Friday afternoon for Dublin, to attend the public letting of the Dublin Docks.

Of Mr. Rennie, who moved the resolution, I have no other complaint to make, than that he allowed himself to be made the instrument of another's malice, and to move a resolution most injurious to me, without making sufficient inquiries, and without giving me any notice of his intention, and at a meeting at which I (having sold my shares) had no right to be present to vindicate myself. But of the party (one of the directors) to whom he has lent himself, and at whose instigation he has been induced so violently to attack my character, I have a little more to say. That individual, I am aware, has entertained feelings of hostility towards me ever since I opposed (although unsuccessfully) the payment to him out of the company's funds of 5000l. for his alleged services, and expenses he said he had incurred in reference to the passing of the Blackwall Railway Bill—a charge which I felt it my duty to oppose as a gross job, and utterly unworthy of any director of that board to be concerned in.

I must also notice what was said by Mr. D. Salomons (my former opponent for the aldermanic gown of the Ward of Aldgate, and my pretended friend on this occasion), of whom I may say—"Protect me from my friends;" he urged that I had pleaded guilty by resigning my seat in the direction—the being at the same time well aware that I could not remain in the direction after having sold my shares in the company, which were my qualification. My personal friend also insinuated that I had sold my shares for the relief of my necessities; but I beg to state that my necessities have never been such as to oblige me to leave my calls unpaid, as was the case, not only with Mr. Salomons, but others of the directors, when I withdrew from the company.

The charge against me, as stated in the resolution, is, that I, being a director of the Blackwall Railway Company, have "trafficked in shares with a view to depreciate the property of my constituents for my own individual gain." In answer to which charge I will state, without fear of contradiction, that I have never purchased, held, or sold, any shares in any other railway company than the Blackwall Company, in which, originally, I held 200 scrip shares, which I sold at a loss of 2000l.

In 1839 I was a second time invited to become a director, to which I consented, on the express understanding that I would not do anything prejudicial to the interests of my constituents in the Ward of Aldgate or the borough of Southwark. I then bought twenty shares, and subsequently twenty more, at or about par. In July, 1840, the number of directors having been previously reduced from twenty-four to sixteen, was again reduced to ten, of which number I was one, but I was shortly afterwards voted out, to make way for the son of Mr. Rennie, the chairman. The proprietors, however, thinking that I had not been well used, a vacancy was made for me by the retirement of Mr. Kettle, and I was induced again to join the direction.

From that time I have found myself unwelcome to many of the directors. Every suggestion which my knowledge and experience of building enabled me to make for the benefit of the company was slighted and neglected, and I had great reason to be dissatisfied at the conduct of the company's affairs; and alarmed at my responsibility as one of ten directors, a debt of 200,0000l. having been incurred, for 45,0000l. of which, in addition to 10,0000l. on account of steam-boats, I and the other directors were, and are still, jointly and severally, personally responsible, having signed promissory notes for that amount. I determined, therefore, to withdraw, not merely from the direction, but from the company altogether; and as the then market price of the shares was about 80l. discount, I had lost 320 on my forty shares; I, therefore, sold 100 shares at an average of 80l. per share discount, but I deny that I sold more shares than it was my intention and in my power to deliver.

With respect to the profit which I am supposed to have made by selling shares in the Blackwall Railway Company, I can confidently affirm, and am ready to prove, that instead of making any profit, I am a loser of upwards of 4000l., besides the interest of my money.

So much for my trafficking in shares for my own individual gain; and as to the depreciation of the market, I leave the public to judge how far the market was likely to be affected by the sale of 100 shares out of a total of 24,000, and whether it is not more likely that the directors themselves have caused the depreciation, by issuing 24,000 new shares of 250l. each, at 80l. 6s. 8d. per share, when the current price of the old shares was 160l. or 170l. per share. Altogether a more shameful, paltry, and contemptible attack was never made upon any individual than has been made upon me in my absence. I am not disposed to defend myself by criminating others; but I cannot help observing, that such an attack comes with a peculiarly bad grace from directors who have confiscated shares for non-payment of calls, when some of their own body had calls unpaid upon their own shares to the amount of several thousand pounds.

To this circumstance may, in some measure, be attributed the necessity for creating new shares so soon, in order to pay the debts of the company. I do not doubt that this plain statement will satisfy the public, and my constituents in particular, of the injustice of the attack which has been made upon me. The facts I have stated are incontrovertible, and I shall be prepared to substantiate them on any occasion that may be offered for that purpose.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant.

Southwark, July 26.

JOHN HUMPHREY.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MORNING CHRONICLE.

SIR,—I am desired by the directors of the Blackwall Railway Company to state, that having had under their consideration a letter from Mr. Alderman Humphrey to the editor of the Morning Chronicle newspaper, they have come to the unanimous determination not to enter into any controversy with that gentleman, nor to give any reply to the misrepresentations in which he has thought proper to indulge. The directors will abstain from making any comment upon the transaction out of which Mr. Humphrey's resignation arose, leaving it to the public to form their opinion upon his own statements; but there are many insinuations, and a few charges, against them, collectively and individually, upon which they feel that the proprietors are entitled to the most ample information, and they will be ready to give at the general meeting, which will be held in the ensuing month.

This much, however, I am desired to state, that so far from its being true that any advantage was intended to be taken of Mr. Alderman Humphrey's expected absence, he was told by the directors, at the board meeting at which he resigned, that the subject would inevitably be taken up by the proprietors at the general meeting, and he was, therefore, strongly urged to attend; but he declined doing so, on the plea of going to Ireland on Thursday—whereas, it is well known he was in the city during the whole time of the discussions at the public meeting, which took place on Friday, with the proceedings of which he was made fully acquainted before he left London.

By order of the board of directors.

London and Blackwall Railway Office, J. WARRINGTON.

BY MARTIN J. ROBERTS, ESQ., F.R.C.S.

Your obedient servant,
MAYNARD J. ROSS

[illegible]

RAILWAY SHARE LIST AND TRAFFIC RETURNS.

* Including Northern and Eastern Railway toll. † Rent and toll to Eastern Counties (about 100d. per week) included in the column. ‡ For Liverpool and Manchester toll is deducted.

1704-1705. V. 20 V.

1. **Patterners, Cutlery street, watchmakers.** (Stumpson and Cobb, Anticrafters.
1. **Stawley, Southampton, manufacturers of lithographic pavement.** (Lambert,
Barnard, builders, Church Lane.

and W. Lloyd, Ath. runner, Warwickshire, builders. [Hawkins and Co., New
Bradley, Huddersfield, iron merchant. [Water and Pemberton, Wyndham's Inn,
Porter, Liverpool, egg merchant. [Gerrish waiter, Dean's-court.
Gerrish, Preston, Lancashire, machine maker. [Mayhew and Co., Carey-street.
B. Bacon, Birmingham, and Duffell-port, Staffordshire, ironmaster. [Chaplin,
Gray's Inn square.

W. H. Ball, Kingston upon Hull, and crabs—S. Bryan, Hardingsdon, North-
amptonshire, show manufacturers—F. Riley, Foston, Leicestershire—H. Cook, North-
ampton, Liverpool street, merchant—F. Munton, With street, merchant—J. Long,
Rutland, Kettering, butcher—C. E. Wooten, Swindon, Wilshire, ironmonger.

DIAPYCNES.
 1. Chesham, Upper Thames street, grange. [Jowett and Co., Bertram's Inn.
 2. Nine, Portsmouth place, Lower Kensington lane, Surrey. On waste dunes.
 [Field, Fitchley. [Dane, Chingford.
 3. Gurney, Upper Lisson street, Lisson grove, increased vicinally. [Newry, New-
 [Newry, New-]

1. *Leucopis, Abertus, Chamaenophorus, etc.* (Hawley and Co., St. Louis's-
Chambers, Hays and, Kansas City, cotton agents.) (Clark and Woodard, Lin-
coln's Inn fields.)

Smith, Preston, Lumberton, chairs. (Chenow, Maple Inn. Terry, Inn.
Twine, Manchester, power loom cloth manufacturers. (Bower and Co., Chen-
Cave, Jan., Liverpool, merchants. (Bridley and Co., Great Marlborough street,
LONDON.

Ang. 30, H. Brown and J. Connors, Wood-nd, Nebraska—97. F. Schrieber and E. Lewis, New Britain, about Blackfries, California—97. F. Ross, Cambridge, Illinois—98. J. Thompson, Blackfries, Illinois—98. F. Starnes, Woodford, Pennsylvania, near Blackfries—98. J. C. Caldwell, Clinton, Oregon—99. G. S. Harney, Minneapolis, Nege, Iowa—100. J. B. Smith, Woodford, Pennsylvania, deposited—J. B. Prichard, and J. B. Cook, New York, all conspecific.

W. C. W. Perry, Liverpool, broker—R. Boulton, Church-st., Clumville,
Morpeth—J. Furlan, Widdowburn, Spenner—J. H. Gaudin, 2, St. Ann's,
Bristol—J. W. Lewis, Broomfield, Loughborough, Leicestershire.

NETHRPOLOGICAL JOURNAL, 1941.

[illegible]

On the 10th, morning clear, otherwise clear. Rainy and cloudy, accompanied with heavy rain, from about eleven till midnight. The 11th, generally clear, a little rain fell during the evening. The 12th, cloudy. The 13th, clear. The 14th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 15th, generally cloudy. The 16th, morning cloudy and hazy, but clear in the afternoon. The 17th, generally clear. The 18th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 19th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 20th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 21st, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 22nd, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 23rd, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 24th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 25th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 26th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 27th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 28th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 29th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 30th, morning cloudy, otherwise clear. The 31st, morning cloudy, otherwise clear.

CHARLES HENRY ADAMS.

1. *Journal of the American Medical Association*, 1997; 278: 1039-1044.

MONEY MARKET AND CITY NEWS.

CURRENT PRICES OF ENGLISH AND FOREIGN FUNDS.

Consols Money, 100	Dutch, 3 per Cent., 78 9
1000 Consols, 100 9	Ditto, 5 per Cent., 101 3
Reduced 3 per Cent., 99 9	Portuguese, 5 per Cent., 102 30
Reduced 4 per Cent., 99 9	Ditto, 3 per Cent., 101 3
Long Annuities, 128	Russian, 5 per Cent., 115 14
Bank Stock, 171 3	Spanish, Active, 5 per Cent., 192 1
Exchequer Bills, 16 18 pm.	Chili, 4 per Cent., 61 48
Belgian Bonds, 1 per Cent., 101 1	Colombian, 4 per Cent., 102 29
Brazil, 5 per Cent., 67 4	Mexican, 5 per Cent., 25 8

SATURDAY.—The English funds have been in a stagnant state throughout the day, with scarcely a bargain doing. Consols for the Account being quoted at 100 9; Bank Stock was 170 14, an advance of 2s. took place in Exchequer Bills, which closed at 16s. 18 pm.

Prices in the foreign house exhibited no alteration whatever. Spanish Active were quoted at 192 1, which was the only price marked in the official list at which business was done.

In the share market Birmingham and Great Western advanced 11 per share; Brightons were also a shade better, but the business transacted was extremely limited. National Bank of Ireland, 114.

MONDAY.—The favourable change that has taken place in the state of the weather within the last two or three days gave an increased firmness to the British funds, which advanced fully 3 per cent. on the closing quotations of Saturday. Consols for the Account opened at 101 10, when, on some purchases being effected in the heavy stocks, as well as in Consols for Money, the price for the Account advanced to 101 14, at which they closed; Bank Stock was 170 14.

Exchequer Bills experienced a further advance of 1s. being quoted at 17s. 18 pm. In the foreign house Spanish Active improved a shade in the early part of the day, the quotation being 194 1, at the close of business, however, the market was heavy, some transactions having taken place at 192, the closing price being 194 1. Portuguese stock was also rather better. Dutch 3 per Cent. improved 4 per cent., the quotation from Amsterdam having come higher.

The business doing in the share market was confined principally to Great Western, which advanced 30s. per share; Brightons, on the contrary, were quoted a shade lower. London and Westminster Bank, 25 1/2; Provincial of Ireland, 102 1/2; Union of Australia, 30.

TUESDAY.—The English stocks, though not influenced by any large amount of business, were again better to day. Exchequer Bills and India Bonds were quoted at an advance of another shilling, and Bank Stock and India Bonds were firm. Consols for Money closed 101 14, buyers, and for the Account, 101 14. Reduced, 99 1/2 to 100 1/2. Bank Stock, Reduced, 170 1/2, New 21s. per Cent., 171 1/2; India Bonds, 170 1/2; Bank Stock, 170 1/2; Exchequer Bills, 17s. 18 pm.

There was very little business done in the foreign market, and prices remain without alteration.

There was no marked alteration in the foreign exchanges to day. Amsterdam, short, 12 1/2 to 13; Antwerp, three months, 12 1/2 to 13; Hamburg, three months, 12 1/2 to 13; Paris, short, 25 1/2 to 26.

The premium on gold at Paris is 7 per mille, which, at the English Mint price of 37 1/2, 100 per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 36 1/2, and the exchange at Paris on London at short being 27 1/2, it follows that gold is 0 1/2 per cent. dearer in Paris than in London.

By services from Hamburg the price of gold is 470 per mark, which, at the English Mint price of 37 1/2, 100 per ounce for standard gold, gives an exchange of 13 1/2, and the exchange at Hamburg on London at short being 13 1/2, it follows that gold is 0 1/2 per cent. dearer in Hamburg than in London.

The course of exchange at New York on London is 105 per cent., and the par of exchange between England and America being 105 20 per cent., it follows that the exchange is 1 1/2 per cent. against England. But the quoted exchange at New York being for bills at sixty days' sight, the interest must be deducted from the above difference.

The railway share market was inanimate. Brighton closed 64 1/2 to 65; Blackwall, 54 1/2 to 55; Great Western, 30 1/2 to 31; South Western, 45 1/2 to 46; Eastern Counties, 14 1/2 to 15; Cudebrough Mining Company, 27 1/2 to 28; ex div. London Joint-stock Bank, 19 1/2 to 20; London and Westminster, new, 17; Union of Australia, 31.

WEDNESDAY.—Among the dealings at the Stock Exchange to-day was one of considerable magnitude—a sale of 100,000, 34 per Cent. Reduced, which naturally enough affected the prices of the Government stocks, although the market had in the first stage of business presented no political appearance. This sale appears to have been entirely unconnected with political or speculative movements, and is said to be one of those operations which some of the larger public companies are in the habit of making, when occasionally they are in the want of capital, or when, for one reason or another, at better (different than is obtained by investment in stock). Consols for Money closed 101 1/2, for the Account, 101 1/2; Reduced, 99 1/2; Bank Stock, Reduced, 170 1/2; New 21s. per Cent., 171 1/2.

The business transacted in the foreign market was very confined. Spanish Active were quoted at 194 1 to 195, Dutch 3 per Cent. improved a shade, the prices from Amsterdam having come 1 per cent. higher.

The *Banquet* steamer brings the Amsterdam prices of the 25th as follow:—24 per Cent., 101 1/2 to 102 1/2; Reduced, 101 1/2 to 102 1/2; Bank Stock, 170 1/2 to 171 1/2; Exchequer Bills, 17s. 18 pm. to 17s. 18 pm.

The share market was heavy to-day, and prices of most of the railway lines gave way, but this decline may, in some measure, be attributed to the state of the account, the settling for which takes place to-morrow. South Western and Great Western were quoted 16 per share lower; Brightons were also 16s. per share lower than yesterday. Colonial Bank, 99; London and Westminster, 27.

THURSDAY.—The public securities generally were but little dealt in to-day, and neither of the markets presented any prominent feature; the Government stocks were steady but closed a shade lower than yesterday. Dutch 3 per Cent. closed 102 1/2 to 103, and 100 per Cent., 102 1/2 to 103, and although the settlement of the account takes place to-morrow, there has been literally nothing done in the market. Money, if anything, is rather tighter, but only in respect to foreign stocks and shares.

The letters from all parts of Scotland agree in the very depressed state of trade there, and in the enormous failure of the railway lines, and the heavy losses sustained by the principal sufferers from the great competition, carried on among them, supported as it was for the time with an over-extended credit and accommodation paper. They are also stated to have sustained extensive losses by the restricted state of business with the United States since the explosion of the banking system.

The settlement in shares to-day comprised only trifling differences, as the operations of the last fortnight were, from the results that attended the last half monthly account, conducted with a good deal of caution. Birmingham was worth from 8 to 10 per cent. according to the condition of deposits. Birmingham was at the closed business quoted 72 to 73 pm. Great Western, 30 1/2 to 31 pm. ditto, new, 30 1/2 to 31 pm. South Western, 45 1/2 to 46 pm. ditto, 45 1/2 to 46 pm. ex div. North Midland, 45 1/2 to 46 pm. ditto, new shares, 45 1/2 to 46 pm. South Eastern, 30 1/2 to 31 pm. Eastern Counties, 14 1/2 to 15 pm. Blackwall, 54 1/2 to 55 pm. Brighton, 64 1/2 to 65 pm. ditto, ex div. London Joint-stock Bank, 19 1/2 to 20 pm. London and Westminster, 27 pm. Provincial Bank of Ireland, new, 15.

FRIDAY.—The fall in the value of the Government stocks to-day was rather more than 1 per cent., and is attributed by some to the tender of the advances from America respecting M'Leod, while the large delivery of stock sold on Wednesday had also contributed to the heaviness of the market. Exchequer Bills and India Bonds recorded about 1s. Consols for Money opened at 101 1/2, but closed at 101 1/2; for the Account, 101 1/2 to 102 1/2; Reduced, 99 1/2 to 100 1/2; Bank Stock, Reduced, 170 1/2 to 171 1/2; New 21s. per Cent., 171 1/2 to 172 1/2; Exchequer Bills, 17s. 18 pm. to 17s. 18 pm.

The 3 per Cent. in the foreign market was without interest, and money was very easy. Spanish Active closed at 194 1 to 195; Mexican, 25 1/2 to 26; Colombian, 102 1/2 to 103; Portuguese 3 per Cent., 102 1/2 to 103; Dutch 3 per Cent., 102 1/2 to 103; Dutch 5 per Cent., 101 1/2 to 102 1/2.

In the foreign exchange day there was no great deal of business done. Paris remained the same as last week, Amsterdam was a shade lower, but Hamburg, particularly towards the close, had a tendency to advance. Paris, short, in quoted 25 1/2 to 26; Amsterdam, short, 12 1/2 to 13; Antwerp, three months, 12 1/2 to 13; Rotterdam, three months, 12 1/2 to 13; and Hamburg, three months, 12 1/2 to 13.

The arrival of the steamer *Boissac*, in something less than ten days from Halifax, has brought news from New York to the 15th inst. The principal subject of interest in this arrival is the state of M'Leod, who has been remained to take his trial on Friday to the ordinary forms of American law. Outcomes vary as to the result, but those to which we have been in the habit of attaching the greatest credit consider nothing extraordinary in the continuation of amicable relations between Great Britain and the United States. We trust that the result may justify this favourable anticipation.

His Majesty's packet the *Beagle*, Lieut. Turner, commander, arrived at Falmouth on Thursday last from Mexico, having quitted Vera Cruz the 12th of June. The *Beagle* and *Thetis* had the 10th following: Freight, 8 1/2 pm.

A telegraphic dispatch, received in Paris on Thursday, announced that the mail steamer *Manitowick* on that morning, from New York, was the 10th; *Amelia*, from London, July the 10th; and *Malta*, July the 10th. The steamer brought the following news:—

Mailway shares closed at Great Western, 30 1/2 to 31 pm. ditto, half share, 30 1/2 to 31 pm. ex div. North Midland, 45 1/2 to 46 pm. ditto, 45 1/2 to 46 pm. South Eastern, 30 1/2 to 31 pm. Eastern Counties, 14 1/2 to 15 pm. Blackwall, 54 1/2 to 55 pm. Brighton, 64 1/2 to 65 pm. ditto, ex div. London Joint-stock Bank, 19 1/2 to 20 pm. London and Westminster, 27 pm. Provincial Bank of Ireland, new, 15.

AUSTRIAN LOAN.—The new Austrian loan has been introduced by Messrs. Aitken and Co., and is a 5 per Cent. loan, to be repaid by instalments, the first of 100,000,000 fl. on the 1st of November, 1861, and the rest by instalments of 100,000,000 fl. on the 1st of November, 1862, and the 1st of November, 1863, and the 1st of November, 1864, and the 1st of November, 1865, and the 1st of November, 1866, and the 1st of November, 1867, and the 1st of November, 1868, and the 1st of November, 1869, and the 1st of November, 1870, and the 1st of November, 1871, and the 1st of November, 1872, and the 1st of November, 1873, and the 1st of November, 1874, and the 1st of November, 1875, and the 1st of November, 1876, and the 1st of November, 1877, and the 1st of November, 1878, and the 1st of November, 1879, and the 1st of November, 1880, and the 1st of November, 1881, and the 1st of November, 1882, and the 1st of November, 1883, and the 1st of November, 1884, and the 1st of November, 1885, and the 1st of November, 1886, and the 1st of November, 1887, and the 1st of 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